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The trustees assure you that they fully reciprocate your expressions of personal esteem and of gratitude for the most amicable relations which have always existed between them and you. They earnestly hope that the rest and relief from responsibility to which you look forward will speedily result in your complete restoration to health and in fitness for increased usefulness and happiness, and to this end their good wishes will always follow you.

We remain, dear Mr. Mendenhall, on behalf of the trustees and with high regard, faithfully yours,

STEPHEN SALISBURY,  
DANIEL MERRIMAN,  
C. G. WASHBURN,  
*Committee of Trustees.*

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THOMAS A. WILLIAMS.

WE learn with much regret of the death of Professor Thomas A. Williams, assistant-chief of the Division of Agrostronomy, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and a well known authority on botany and agriculture. He died at his home, near Washington, on December 23d, at the early age of thirty-five years. The high esteem in which Professor Williams was held by his colleagues is expressed in the following resolutions:

It is with feelings of profound sorrow and regret that we, the employees of the Department of Agriculture, learn that death has removed from among us our beloved companion and co-worker, Thomas A. Williams, a classmate and intimate associate of many of our number. His broad knowledge of scientific matters, his keen appreciation of nature, his kind and forbearing disposition has endeared him to all. He was known to his associates as an indefatigable worker and investigator.

*Resolved*, That in the death of Professor Thomas A. Williams, science and agriculture have suffered a great loss, and we, his associates, a dear friend, whose self-forgetfulness in his kindly consideration for the feelings of others, and uniform cheerfulness, often under conditions of severe physical suffering, revealed a lovable character of the highest Christian type. The loss to the Division of Agrostronomy is irreparable. In the performance of his official duties he had proved himself an excellent executive and an organizer of unusual merit and his relations with his associates in office were always such as to command the highest esteem and respect. He never shirked a duty, and however difficult the undertaking, the work performed by him was done most creditably. His loss will be felt most keenly by his associates in the di-

vision, and his memory will remain with them as one whose exemplary life and steadfastness of purpose they should strive to emulate.

*Resolved further*, That we tender to his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in their great loss and invoke for them the blessing of the Heavenly Father, who alone can heal the broken heart and give lasting comfort.

*Resolved*, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased and to the various daily and scientific journals.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WASHINGTON BIOLOGISTS' FIELD CLUB.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27, 1900.

*Whereas*, We have learned with sorrow and a sense of deep personal loss of the sudden death of our fellow-member, Thomas A. Williams.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee of the Washington Biologists' Field Club voices the feeling of every member in paying tribute to the memory of Mr. Williams, whose gentle and kindly disposition, charming good-fellowship and sterling qualities endeared him to every one of us. We recall with pleasant remembrances his interest in the work of the Club and its social relationships, as well as the many delightful hours spent with him in the field. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Williams in this the hour of her great bereavement, which we hope may be lightened by the thought that he passed away in the same peaceful and tranquil spirit in which he had lived.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this tribute be sent to the family of the deceased, and that it be published in *The Plant World*, of which he was an editor, and in *SCIENCE*.

By direction Standing Committee,  
Washington Biologists' Field Club,  
CHARLES LOUIS POLLARD,  
*Chairman.*

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THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS.

THE Society met at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, on the 27th and 28th of December. In addition to serving as a center for the important affiliated societies devoted to the natural sciences, the Society as usual had what may be regarded as two scientific sessions. The address of the president, Professor E. B. Wilson, printed above, was given at the annual banquet on Friday evening, and on Thursday afternoon a discussion, which will also be printed in this Journal, took place, its